

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-18 and 20-32 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 30 and 32 being the independent claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-18 and 20-31.

Claim Rejection

Claim 32 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,073,283 to Zheng.

Independent claim 32 recites "the cover defining an opening configured to receive a rigid substantially planar item defining a perimeter when the coilable frame member is in the expanded configuration, the perimeter of the panel portion of the cover being disposed proximate the perimeter of the substantially planar item when the substantially planar item is received within the opening." Zheng is entirely silent as to an opening as recited in claim 32.

Zheng discloses a panel 12 having a sheet 28 and a sleeve 22 in which a frame member 24 is disposed. The sheet 28 is solid or continuous having no openings therein, and the sleeve 22 is a continuous closed sleeve with no openings. The Examiner suggests that there is an opening defined by the area inside the frame member 24 and the sleeve 22. The Applicant is unclear as to where such opening could be. As stated above, the sleeve 22 is closed having no openings and the frame member 24 is entirely encased by the sleeve 22. Moreover, claim 32 recites that the opening is configured to receive a rigid substantially planar item. Even if the sleeve 22 and frame member 24 were considered to define some sort of opening, such an opening would not be

configured to receive such an item. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32 is allowable over Zheng.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection in the Office Action have been properly traversed or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections. Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that further personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.


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